

REMARKS

In the specification, paragraphs beginning at page 1, line 17; page 2, line 15; page 3, line 18; page 5, line 31; page 15, line 20; page 16, line 14; page 16, line 28; and page 17, line 3; have been editorially amended. The abstract has been editorially amended, as indicated in the replacement abstract set forth on the attached sheet. No new matter has been introduced.

Claims 1-15 and 17-37 remain in this application. Claim 16 has been canceled. Claim 27 has been editorially amended. No new matter has been introduced.

If the Examiner believes that a teleconference would be useful in expediting the prosecution of this application, the official is kindly invited to telephone Applicants' undersigned representative of record at (312) 577-7000.

Respectfully submitted,
FITCH, EVEN, TABIN & FLANNERY

Date: January 9, 2004

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